

THE PINES,  
PUTNEY HILL. S.W.

July 14. 96

My dear Ned

A thousand thanks for  
your share in the magnificent  
gift I have just received. It is not,  
my very dear sir, for me to praise-  
it suffices me to admire, to appreciate,  
& to enjoy. When the meridional glow  
of genius is tempered by the cordial  
urbanity - if I may be allowed that  
endearing phrase - of friendship,  
the emotions evoked are such as now  
animate the (shall I say?) labouring  
bosom of Yours ever devotedly  
Al Swinburne